

From the  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

PCT

To:

see form PCT/ISA/220

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY  
(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Date of mailing  
(day/month/year) see form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet)

Applicant's or agent's file reference  
see form PCT/ISA/220

**FOR FURTHER ACTION**  
See paragraph 2 below

International application No.  
PCT/JP2004/004239

International filing date (day/month/year)  
25.03.2004

Priority date (day/month/year)  
26.03.2003

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC  
H04N5/262, H04N5/74, H04N13/00

Applicant  
MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC WORKS LTD.

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☒ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will usually be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA"). However, this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of three months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA:



European Patent Office - Gitschiner Str. 103  
D-10958 Berlin  
Tel. +49 30 25901 - 0  
Fax: +49 30 25901 - 840

Authorized Officer

Dudley, C

Telephone No. +49 30 25901-462



**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.  
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**Box No. I Basis of the opinion**

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1. With regard to the **language**, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.  
☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
  - a. type of material:  
☐ a sequence listing  
☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
  - b. format of material:  
☐ in written format  
☐ in computer readable form
  - c. time of filing/furnishing:  
☐ contained in the international application as filed.  
☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.  
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

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**Box No. II    Priority**

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1. ☒ The following document has not been furnished:

☒ copy of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed (Rule 43*bis*.1 and 66.7(a)).

☐ translation of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed (Rule 43*bis*.1 and 66.7(b)).

Consequently it has not been possible to consider the validity of the priority claim. This opinion has nevertheless been established on the assumption that the relevant date is the claimed priority date.

2. ☐ This opinion has been established as if no priority had been claimed due to the fact that the priority claim has been found invalid (Rules 43*bis*.1 and 64.1). Thus for the purposes of this opinion, the international filing date indicated above is considered to be the relevant date.

3. Additional observations, if necessary:

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**Box No. V    Reasoned statement under Rule 43*bis*.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

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1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	1-11
	No: Claims	
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	1-11
	No: Claims	
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-11
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

**see separate sheet**

**Re Item V**

**Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;  
citations and explanations supporting such statement**

1. Reference is made to the following document

D1: US-A-5 136 390 (INOVA ET AL) 4 August 1992 (1992-08-04)

2. Document **D1**, which is considered to represent the most relevant state of the art, discloses (cf. column 6, line 42, to column 9, line 40) a method for creating brightness filters for an image projection system which projects divided images on a screen from a plurality of projectors with adjacent images partially overlapping to reproduce a combined image, the said filter being designed to adjust the brightness of the said divided images for harmonising the brightness of the overlapping areas with the brightness of non-overlapping areas to make the said combined image seamless. The subject-matter of claim 1 differs therefrom in that the screen is curved, whereas that in shown in D1 is flat, and in that the method of D1 does not comprise steps (a) to (j) of claim 1. The subject-matter of claim 1 is therefore considered to be new (Article 33(2) PCT).

The problem to be solved by the present invention may be regarded as one of how to calculate brightness filters for use with a curved screen.

The solution to this problem proposed in claim 1 of the present application is considered as involving an inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT) as it is neither disclosed nor suggested in the available prior art.

3. Claim 2 is dependent on claim 1 and as such is also considered to meet the requirements of the PCT with respect to novelty and inventive step.
4. The subject-matter of claim 3 is considered to be new (Article 33(2) PCT) and to involve inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT) for the same reasons as those outlined above in respect of claim 1.

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AUTHORITY (SEPARATE SHEET)**

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5. Claims 4 to 9 are dependent on claim 3 and as such also meets the requirements of the PCT with respect to novelty and inventive step.
6. The subject-matter of claim 10 is considered to be new (Article 33(2) PCT) and to involve inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT) for the same reasons as those outlined above in respect of claim 1.
7. The subject-matter of claim 11 is considered to be new (Article 33(2) PCT) and to involve inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT) for the same reasons as those outlined above in respect of claim 1.